

REMARKS

The applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action mailed on October 6, 2006. In the Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 1, 2 and 4-8 and rejected claims 9, 12-13 and 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,767,141 to Dudek et al. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 10-11 and 14-15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,767,141 to Dudek et al.

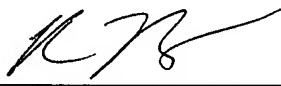
In response, the applicant has amended independent claims 9 and 16 to incorporate the limitations of allowed claim 1, and in particular the connector body of allowed claim 1. Applicant believes that the amendments presented herein place the remaining claims in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments and reconsideration of the amended claims.

If the Examiner has any questions about this Amendment and to facilitate prosecution, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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